

C. # 1062

DOC NO. 1339-A (9)

Message from the Right Honourable Winston Churchill, Acting
Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, to His Excellency
Mr. Yosuke Matsuoka, His Imperial Japanese Majesty's Minister
for Foreign Affairs, of which a copy was handed unofficially to
Mr. Matsuoka by His Majesty's Ambassador at Moscow on April
12th, 1941.

(Note. - It had originally been intended that this letter
should be delivered to Mr. Matsuoka by Mr. Shigemitsu who had
expected to meet the Japanese Foreign Minister during his stay
in Europe).

Your Excellency,

I take advantage of the facilities with which we have
provided your Ambassador to send you a friendly message of
sincerity and goodwill. I venture to suggest a few questions
which, it seems to me, deserve the attention of the Imperial
Japanese Government and people:

- (1) Will the Germans, without command of the sea or command
of the British daylight air, be able to invade and conquer Great
Britain in the spring, summer or autumn of 1941? Will the
Germans try to do so? Would it not be in the interests of Japan
to wait until these questions have answered themselves?
- (2) Will the German attack on British shipping be strong

enough to prevent American aid from reaching British shores with Great Britain and the United States of America transforming their whole industry to war purposes?

(3) Did Japan's accession to the triple pact make it more likely or less likely that the United States would come into the present war?

(4) If the United States entered the war at the side of Great Britain and Japan ranged herself with the Axis Powers, would not the naval superiority of the two English-speaking nations enable them to deal with Japan while disposing of the Axis Powers in Europe?

(5) Is Italy a strength or a burden to Germany? Is the Italian fleet as good at sea as on paper? Is it as good on paper as it used to be?

(6) Will the British Air Force be stronger than the German Air Force before the end of 1941 and far stronger before the end of 1942?

(7) Will the many countries which are being held down by the German army and Gestapo learn to like the Germans more or will they like them less as the years pass by?

(8) Is it true that the production of steel in the United States of America during 1941 will be 75 million tons and in Great Britain about 12-1/2 million tons, making a total of nearly 90 million tons? If Germany should happen to be defeated as she was last time would not the 7 million tons of steel production of Japan be inadequate for a single-handed war?

From the answers to these questions may spring the avoidance by Japan of a serious catastrophe and a marked improvement in the relations between Japan and Great Britain, the great sea Power of the West.

I remain, with great truth and respect,

Your Excellency's obedient Servant,

(Sd) WINSTON S. CHURCHILL

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page 1

C E R T I F I C A T E

W.D.C. No. _____

I.P.S. No. 1339A (9)

Statement of Source and Authenticity

I, HAYASHI Kaoru, hereby certify
that I am officially connected with the Japanese Government in the
following capacity: Chief of the Archives Section Japanese Foreign
Office

and that as such official I have custody of the document hereto
attached consisting of 3 pages, dated 12 April, 1941, and
described as follows:

Letter from Churchill to Foreign Minister MATSUOKA handed to
MATSUOKA at Moscow on 12 April 1941.

I further certify that the attached record and document is an
official document of the Japanese Government, and that it is part of
the official archives and files of the following named ministry or
department (specifying also the file number or citation, if any, or
any other official designation of the regular location of the
document in the archives or files): Foreign Ministry

Signed at Tokyo on this

21st day of Sept. 1946.

/s/ K. Hayashi
Signature of Official

SEAL

Witness: Nagaharu Odo /s/

Chief, Archives Sect
Official Capacity

C E R T I F I C A T E

Statement of Official Procurement

I, Richard F. Marsh, hereby certify that I am associated with the General Headquarters of the Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers, and that the above described document was obtained by me from the above signed official of the Japanese Government in the conduct of my official business.

Signed at Tokyo, on this

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EXHIBIT NO.

*
外務大臣代理 ツヴィンストン。チャーチル閣下
ヨリ日本帝国外務大臣松岡洋右閣下ヘノ書翰、本
書翰ノ寫シハ一九四一年四月十二日モスコウニ於
テ貴大臣ヲ通ジ非公式ニ松岡氏ニ渡サレタ。

(註、本書翰ハ最初重光氏が日本外務大臣ノ歐洲
在中領ト合見ノ鑑定アツタノテ重光氏ヲ通ジ
テ松岡氏ニ渡サレル旨アツタ。)

閣下、

私ハ貴國大臣ノ威政言ヲヒシ便宣ヲ利用シ閣下ニ
誠意ト好意アル玄好的手紙ヲ差上ゲマス。

私ハ日本帝國政府及び國民ノ誠心ヲ呼フニ信ヒス
ルト思ハレルニ、三ノ問題ヲ接樂致シ度イト存ジ
マス。

(一)前述ハ一九四一年(昭和十六年)ノ春、夏、秋
ハ秋ニ於テ渤海に及ハ英國ノ白艦ノ侵空艦ナク
シテ英國ヲ攻撃シテ艦艇シ得ルテセウカ、前述
ハ是ヲ試ミルテセウカ。是等ノ國事方聲明スル
迄待ツノガ日本ニトリ有利テハナイテセウカ。

(二)美國及び米國方其ノ全工業力ヲ戰争目的ニ轉化
シタトシテモ米國ノ援助ガ英國海軍于前述又艦

キ連英國海上機器ニ駆スル事、或其力量

(三)テルテセウカ

COPY
RETRAIT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
TO THE GOVERNMENT OF JAPAN
FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE
INTERESTS OF THE UNITED STATES
IN CHINA AND ASIA

★

國ノ參戰ヲ容易ニシタデセウカ、或ハ困難ニシタデセウカ。

- (四) 若シ米國が英國ニ味方シテ参戰シ、日本方艦船側ニ参加スルト假定シテ、英米兩國ノ侵蝕ナル海軍ハ歐洲ニ於テ蘇聯國ヲ處分ヘルト同時ニ日本ヲ處分スルコトヲ可能ナラシメナイデセウカ。
- (五) 伊太利ハ猶遂ニトツテ力トナルモノデセウカ、眞荷テセウカ、伊太利ノ艦隊ハ机上航行海上ニ於テモ實際ニ強イデセウカ、皆太利艦隊ハ机上體トシテモ會ツテノ様ニ強力テセウカ。
- (六) 一九四一年（昭和十六年）末迄ニ英國ノ空軍が猶遂ノ空母ヨリ擊クナルデセウカ、一九四二年（昭和十七年）末迄ニ英國空軍が猶遂ノ空母ヨリ遂カニ擊クナルデセウカ。
- (七) 猶遂軍及猶遂「ゲスター」ニ依リ抑ヘツケラレテ尾ル國々方年ノ空運ト共ニ猶遂ニ參々好意ヲ持ツ様ニナルデセウカ、或ハ持タヌ様ニナルデセウカ。
- (八) 一九四一年（昭和十六年）ニハ米國ノ銅鐵ノ生産高ハ七千五百萬噸ニナリ、英國ニ於テハ鉛一千二百五十萬噸ニナリ、合計シテ殆ンド九千萬噸ニナルト云フノハ眞實テセウカ。萬一猶遂ガ以前ノ如ク敗北スレバ日本ノ銅鐵生産高ノ七百萬

1339A(9)-3 *

國ハ日本單獨ノ戰爭ノ爲ニハ不充分テナイテセ
ウカ。

是等ノ開戦ニ對スル併答ヲ考フルナラバ日本ハ
悉ルベキ災難ヲ遭ケテ四方ノ偉大ナル鄰國共國
ト合々謀叛ノ兵ヲ應バルテセウ。

義長

ウインストン。S。チャーチル

(署名)

國下 倉 実

1339A(9) - 4
cc.t.

證 明 書

「ワシントン」文書局 第
国際検察部 第一三三九A(九號)

典義及び公正ニ關スル証明

余、本署ハ余ガ下記ノ責信ニ於テ、即チ外務省文
書課長トシテ、日本政府ト公的關係ニ在ルモノナ
ルコト、並ニ該官吏トシテ余ガ茲ニ添附セラレタ
ル、三頁ヨリ成ル、千九百四十一年／昭和十六年／
四月十二日附、下記題名、即チ英外相「チャーチ
ル」氏ヨリ松岡外相宛看翰ノ文書ノ保管ニ任ジ居
ルコトヲ茲ニ証明ス。

余ハ更ニ添附ノ記録及び文書ガ日本政府ノ公式
ナルコト、並ニ右ガ下記名稱ノ省又ハ部局ノ公式
書類及び紙ノ一部ナルコトヲ証明ス。(若シアラ
バ該省號又ハ引用、其他公式書類又ハ證ニ於ケル
該文書ノ成規所在ノ公式名稱ヲモ備記スペシ)

千九百四十六年／昭和二十一年／九月二十一日

東京ニ於テ署名

當該官吏署名

捺

右ノ者ノ公的責信

外務省文書課長

證人

尾戸長春

1339A(9) - 5 cert.

公式入手ニ關スル證明

余、RICHARD H. LARSHハ、余方聯合國最高指揮官司
令部ニ附領アルモノナルコト、並ニ上記署名ノ文
書ハ余方公勅上、日本政府ノ上記署名宣文ヨリ入
手シタルモノナルコトヲ茲ニ證明ス。

一千九百四十六年／昭和二十二年／九月二十五日

東京ニ於テ署名

氏名

RICHARD H. LARSH

右ノ者ノ公的資格

左察局調査部

證人

T/A T. TOGUCHI

E. #1063

DOC. NO. 1339-A-(10)

April 22, 1941

Your Excellency,

I have just come back from my trip and hasten to acknowledge the receipt of paper, handed to me at Moscow on the evening of the 12th instant by Sir Stafford Cripps with remark that it was a copy in substance of a letter addressed to me dated London, April 2nd 1941, and forwarded to Tokyo.

I wish to express my appreciation for the facilities with which your Government made efforts to provide our Ambassador when he wanted to meet me on the continent. I was keenly disappointed when I learned that he could not come.

Your Excellency may rest assured that the foreign policy of Japan is determined upon and after an unbiased examination of all the facts and a very careful weighing of all the elements of the situation she confronts, always holding steadfastly in view the great racial aim and ambition of finally bringing about on the earth the conditions envisaged in what she calls Hakkoichiu, the Japanese conception of a universal peace under which there would be no conquest, no oppression, no exploitation of any and all peoples. And, once determined, I need hardly tell Your Excellency, it will be carried out with resolution but with

utmost circumspection, taking in every detail of changing circumstances.

I am, believe me,

Your Excellency's obedient servant,

Yosuke Matsuoka.

His Excellency

The Right Honorable Winston Churchill

Prime Minister of Great Britain.

C E R T I F I C A T E

W.D.C. No.
I.P.S. No. 1339A(10)

Statement of Source and Authenticity

I, HAYASHI Kaoru hereby certify that I am officially connected with the Japanese Government in the following capacity: Chief of the Archives Section, Japanese Foreign Office and that as such official I have custody of the document hereto attached consisting of 2 pages, dated 12 April, 1941, and described as follows: Telegram from MATSUOKA to CHURCHILL dated 12 April 1941. I further certify that the attached record and document is an official document of the Japanese Government, and that it is part of the official archives and files of the following named ministry or department (specifying also the file number or citation, if any, or any other official designation of the regular location of the document in the archives or files): Foreign Ministry -----

Signed at Tokyo on this
27 day of Sept., 1946.

/s/ K. Hayashi
Signature of Official

SEAL

Witness: /s/ Nagaharu Odo

Chief, Archives Sect
Official Capacity

Statement of Official Procurement

I, Richard H. Larsh, hereby certify that I am associated with the General Headquarters of the Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers, and that the above described document was obtained by me from the above signed official of the Japanese Government in the conduct of my official business.

Signed at Tokyo on this
25 day of September, 1946

/s/ Richard H. Larsh
NAME

Witness: /s/ T/4 T. Toguchi

Investigation Division IPS
Official Capacity

1339A(10)- /

文 1063

電送第一三五五三號

昭和十六年四月廿二日起算

* 昭和十六年四月二十二日零八時二十分

在 美

松 間 六 巨 愛

眞 光 大 使 宿

松 間 大 巨 ノ 美 首 相 ヘ 手 文 ノ 美 文 書 ノ 件

(附) 第一三九號

閣 下

唯今觀察ヨリ歸任、早速本月十二日夕刻「モスコウ」ニ於テ「スタッフオード・クリップス」ノ
ヨリ會議權力ニ手交サレタル旨御知ラセ申上候
同文書ヘ通音ニ於テ丸曰一千四月二日附箇文
リノ小官宛書翰ニシテ東京ニ送達セラレタルモノ
ノ復寫ナル旨承ハリ候

日本大使ノ底調大臣ニテ小官ニ面談セント欲セシ
際貴政局ノ吾方大使ニ便宣ヲ與ヘント極力好メラ
レシ御好意ニ誠シ厚ク感謝申上候。大使ノ本訪館
ハザル事ヲ知リタル時編ク失望致候

日本ノ外交政策ハ總エバ偉大ナル民族的目的反對
開拓八國一字ニ具現セル狀態ヲ總務上ニ終局的ニ長
春化スルコトヲ既然全圖シ、凡ニル事實ノ檢討反

1939 A (10) - 2

★

日本ノ宣画セル事議ノ凡ニル其業ヲ極メテ周到ニ
考慮スル事ニ依リ又然ル後ニ決定サレルモノナル
故御心下度、尙右八法一字ハ如何ナル民族ヲ
モ征服セザル、侵略セザル、利用セザル日本ノ字
笛上ノ平和記念ナリ
尙一慶決定サレタル以上矣然ト、シカモ憲章シツ
ツアル事態ニ譯解ニ論處シに於ノ慎重ヲ以テ、ソ
ノ實質ハ逆行サレルコトヲ重テ中上タルニ及バザ
ルコトト愚考識

敬 賀

松岡洋右

大英帝國首領

ウインストン・チャーチル 国下

1339A(10)-3
(cc:7)

「ワシントン」文書局 第一號
國際法務部 第二三三九A-1 (O)

眞誠及ビ公正ニシスル證明

余、本紙ハ余ガ下記ノ真偽ニ於テ、即テ外務省文
書課長トシテ、日本政府ト公的關係ニ在ルモノナ
ルコト、並ニ該官吏トシテ余ガ其ニ添附セラレタ
ル、ニ貢ヨリ成ル、千九百四十二年ノ昭和十六年
ノ四月廿二日時、下記通名、即テ権威大臣、「
テヤーテル」英首相ヘ手交ノ英文書ノ管ノ文書、
保管ニ任ジ居ルコトヲ茲ニ證明ス。

余ハ更ニ添附ノ記録及び文書が日本政府ノ公式書
ナルコト、並ニ右ガ下記合意ノ旨又ハ部局ノ公式
書類及ビ證ノ一部ナルコトヲ茲ニ证明ス。 (若シアラバ
該書類又ハ引用、其ノ他公式書類又ハ是ニ於ケル該文書ノ成認所
在ノ公式名稱ヲモ備記スベシ)

千九百四十六年ノ昭和二十二年ノ九月廿一日

東京ニ於テ署名

當該官吏署名印
捺印

右ノ者ノ公的資格
外務省文書課長

證人
戸長春

1339 (1c)-44 (cert)

公式入手ニシテル函題

余、RICHARD H. LARSH、余方聯合國最高法院官員同
會部ニ山添アラモノナルコト、並ニ上記署名ノ文
書ハ余方公認上、日本政府ノ上記署名官吏ヨリ入
手シタルモノナルコトヲ茲ニ證明ス。

一千九百四十六年／西暦二十二年／八月二十二日

原系ニ於テ署名

氏　　名　　劉 RICHARD H. LARSH

右ノ者ノ公認貿易　總務局同会部

證　　人　　佐藤 T. TOGUCHI